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Gallatin City-County Health Department

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Communicable Disease Report January 12, 2009

Gallatin County Weekly Communicable Disease Report 12/31/08-1/06/09

Reportable :

3 Hepatitis C
3 Dog Bite
2 Chlamydia

Non- Reportable :

29 Streptococcus
1 Mononucleosis

Gallatin City-County Health Department Update: Even though Gallatin County has had two positive cases of influenza confirmed by PCR testing at the Montana Public Health Laboratory, MPHLS is requesting that providers **continue to send positive influenza** rapid test specimens to the lab for sub-typing at **no charge**.

Montana Communicable Disease Weekly Update: 01/02/09

Summary – Weeks 51 and 52 – Disease reports received at DPHHS during the reporting period December 14-27, 2008 included campylobacteriosis, *E. coli* 0157, giardiasis, non-0157 STEC, salmonellosis, an invasive *S. pneumoniae* and varicella.

Influenza Surveillance – Montana's influenza activity is classified as sporadic. As of 01/02/08 there were 7 MPHLS PCR confirmed cases of influenza in the following counties: 3 Cascade (A:H3); 2 Gallatin (A:H3); 1 Missoula (A:H3); 1 Deer Lodge (B).

Oseltamivir Resistance – The CDC issued "Interim Recommendations for the Use of Influenza Antiviral Medications in the Setting of Oseltamivir Resistance among Circulating Influenza A (H1N1) Viruses" on December 19, 2008. DPHHS recommendations include: (1) When influenza A (H1N1) virus infection or exposure is suspected, providers should consider the use of zanamivir or a combination of oseltamivir and rimantadine, in lieu of oseltamivir alone due to the identification of oseltamivir resistant strains early in the influenza season; (2) Providers should continue to submit specimens to the Montana Public Health Laboratory (MPHLS) for PCR confirmatory testing when rapid influenza tests are positive; the positive predictive value of rapid tests is low when influenza incidence is low. MPHLS testing distinguishes A from B and subtypes A-H1 from A-H3 and; (3) providers should continue to vaccinate persons against influenza.

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